

Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 09/453,726

Confirmation No.: 2987

Filed: 2 December 1999

For: HYDROGEN PEROXIDE INDICATOR AND METHOD

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

1. (Previously Presented) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.
2. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Victoria green S extra, Eriochrome blue black B, Congo red, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.
3. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 2, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of New fuchsin, Quinea green B,

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Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Congo red, Eriochrome blue black B, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet 3RAX, and combinations thereof.

4. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 2, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Victoria green S extra, Methylene violet, Bromopyrogallol red, Brilliant green, and combinations thereof.
5. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.
6. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the indicator composition further comprises at least one colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor.
7. (Previously presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 6, wherein the colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor is selected from the group consisting of Quinacridone red 19, Auramine O, Brilliant blue G, Acid black 24, Patent blue violet, Disperse red 13, Sudan black B, Janus green B, Acridine orange base, Fast green FCF, Patent blue VF, Acid red 97, Sulforhodamine B, Xylenol orange sodium

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salt, Azure B, Spirit soluble fast yellow G, Keystone soap fluoro green, Calco oil blue N, Oil blue A, Calco oil green, D & C red no. 33, D & C green no.5, Bordeaux R, Xylenol cyanole FF, Crystal scarlet, Basic blue 41, Evans blue, Chicago sky blue 6B, Acid blue 113, Acid blue 120, Acid red 88, Acid red 151, Acid violet 5, Disperse red 1, Direct red 81, Disperse red 19, Sudan red 7B, Basic red 73, Acid green AX986, and combinations thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 7, wherein the indicator composition comprises Alkali blue 6B and Quinacridone red 19.
9. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the substrate is a polyester film.
10. (Currently amended) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises a binder, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, [Brilliant green,] Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof, and at least one colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor.
11. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring a hydrogen peroxide sterilization process, the method comprising exposing an article to be sterilized and a hydrogen peroxide

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sterilization indicator to a sterilant vapor consisting essentially of hydrogen peroxide, wherein the hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprises a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, [Crystal violet,] Methyl violet 2B, Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Methylene green, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Methyl violet 2B, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Victoria green S extra, Eriochrome blue black B, Congo red, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Methyl violet 2B, New fuchsin, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Congo red, Eriochrome blue black B, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet 3RAX, and combinations thereof.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Victoria green S extra, Methylene violet, Bromopyrogallol red, Brilliant green, and combinations thereof.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Methylene green, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.
16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the indicator composition further comprises at least one colorant that does not change upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor.
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor is selected from the group consisting of Quinacridone red 19, Auramine O, Brilliant blue G, Acid black 24, Patent blue violet, Disperse red 13, Sudan black B, Janus green B, Acridine orange base, Fast green FCF, Patent blue VF, Acid red 97, Sulforhodamine B, Xylenol orange sodium salt, Azure B, Spirit soluble fast yellow G, Keystone soap fluoro green, Calco oil blue N, Oil blue A, Calco oil green, D & C red no. 33, D & C green no.5, Bordeaux R, Xylenol cyanole FF, Crystal scarlet, Basic blue 41, Evans blue, Chicago sky blue 6B, Acid blue 113, Acid blue 120, Acid red 88, Acid red 151, Acid violet 5, Disperse red 1, Direct red 81, Disperse red 19, Sudan red 7B, Basic red 073, Acid green AX986, and combinations thereof.

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18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the indicator composition comprises Alkali blue 6B and Quinacridone red 19.
19. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the substrate is a polyester film.
20. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the binder is shellac.
21. (Previously Presented) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Currently amended) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition consists essentially of a binder, an optional colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide, an optional dispersing agent, an optional opacifying agent, an optional surfactant, an optional plasticizer, an optional antifoam agent, an optional basic material, and at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Ethyl violet,

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New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, [Brilliant green,] Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.